

**VETERANS OF PUTNAM COUNTY TENNESSEE
VETERANS HALL, COOKEVILLE, (part 7)**

<http://www.ajlambert.com>

For more information about the project, or to inquire about displaying your veteran's picture, contact Glenn Jones at (931) 520-0042 or (931) 526-2161.

Mailing address: Putnam County Archives
ATTN: Glenn Jones
121 B South Dixie Ave.
Cookeville, TN 38501



U.S. ARMY CORPORAL SIDNEY BRYAN JENKINS

The late U.S. Army Corporal Sidney Bryan Jenkins, represented by family members, seated, from left, Sydney Pasternack, granddaughter; Geri Wigtil, daughter; and Brenda Johnson, granddaughter; and standing, Trish Rodgers and husband Bryan Rodgers, grandson; Mark Wigtil, grandson; Wendy Wigtil, Mark's wife; and David Wigtil, great-grandson, is the *Herald-Citizen* of the week. Sidney served in the Army during World War I from 1917-1919 in France as part of the 117th Machine Gun Company and a member of the 109th Cookeville Cavalry. He died in 1934 and is buried in Cookeville City Cemetery. For more information about the Putnam County Veterans Hall, call (931) 520-0042. Photo by Ty Kernea | Herald-Citizen.

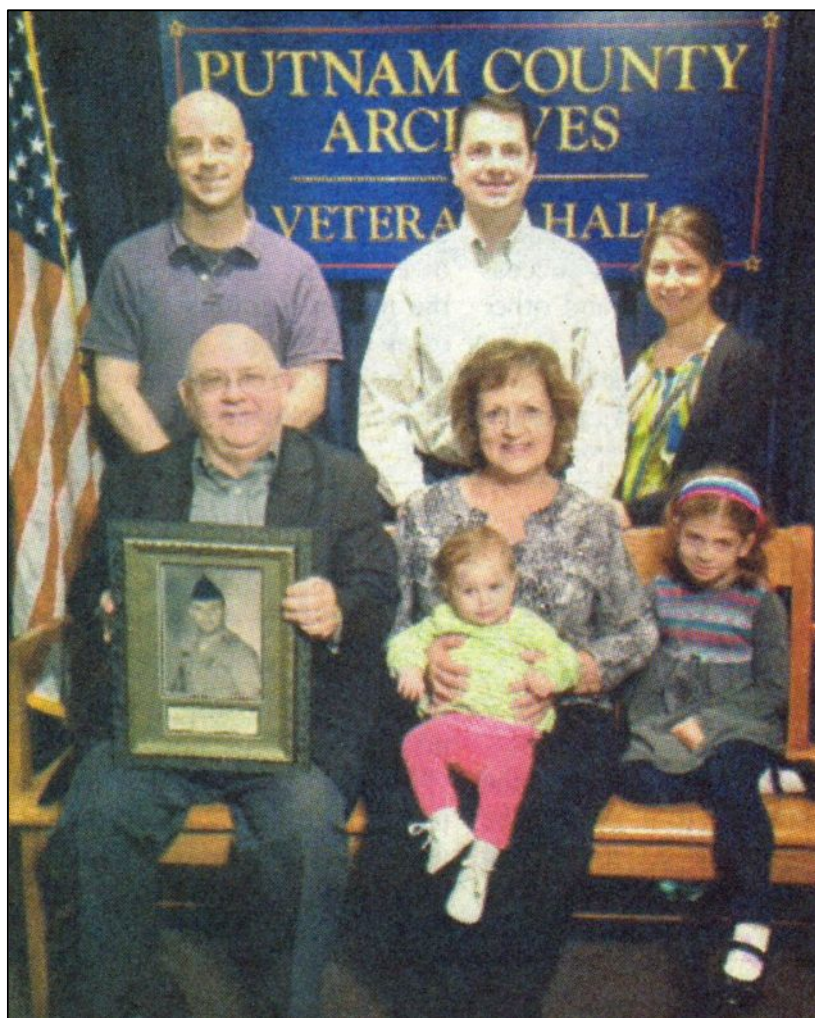
Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: 2 January 2014



PRIVATE FIRST CLASS HENRY PEAKE

The late Army Air Corps Private First Class Henry Peake, represented by daughter Martha Louise Peake, is the Herald-Citizen Veteran of the Week. Peake served during World War II from 1942-1945 as a duty soldier (590) Maxwell Field, Alabama, in the American Theater of Operation. He died in 2003 and is buried in Algood Cemetery. For more information about the Putnam County Veterans Hall, call 520-0042. Ty Kernea | Herald-Citizen

Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: 14 January 2014



U.S. ARMY 1ST LT. JIMMIE ROBERT LOFTIS

U. S. Army 1st Lt. Jimmie Robert Loftis, seated left holding his photo, with wife Linda S. Loftis, granddaughters Jordan R. Loftis and Madison J. Loftis, and standing, sons Sean Loftis and Stephen R. Loftis and daughter-in-law Juile Loftis, is the *Herald-Citizen* Veteran of the week. Loftis served in the Vietnam War as a platoon commander, 8th Platoon, 2nd Civil Affairs Co., attached to MACV Advisory Team 88, Kien Hoa Province. He is also the recipient of the Bronze Star Medal, Army Commendation Medal, National Defense Serve medal, Vietnam Service Medal w/4-combat star attachments, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Ribbon w/Device, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation 2/Palm and Expert Marksman Badge w/auto rifle bar. For more information about the Putnam County Veterans Hall, call (931) 520-0042. Photo by Ty Kernea | Herald-Citizen.

Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: 21 January 2014



MEMORIAL BRICKS

From left, Carolyn Smith, Samuel Correll and Anna Kate Correll, receive their \$1,000 brick from the raffle at the Putnam County Archives, which will be placed at the new building when it is built. The raffle was sponsored by Harris Monuments, Philip Gibbons and the *Herald-Citizen*. For more information on purchasing a memorial brick to benefit the archives, call (931) 520-0042.

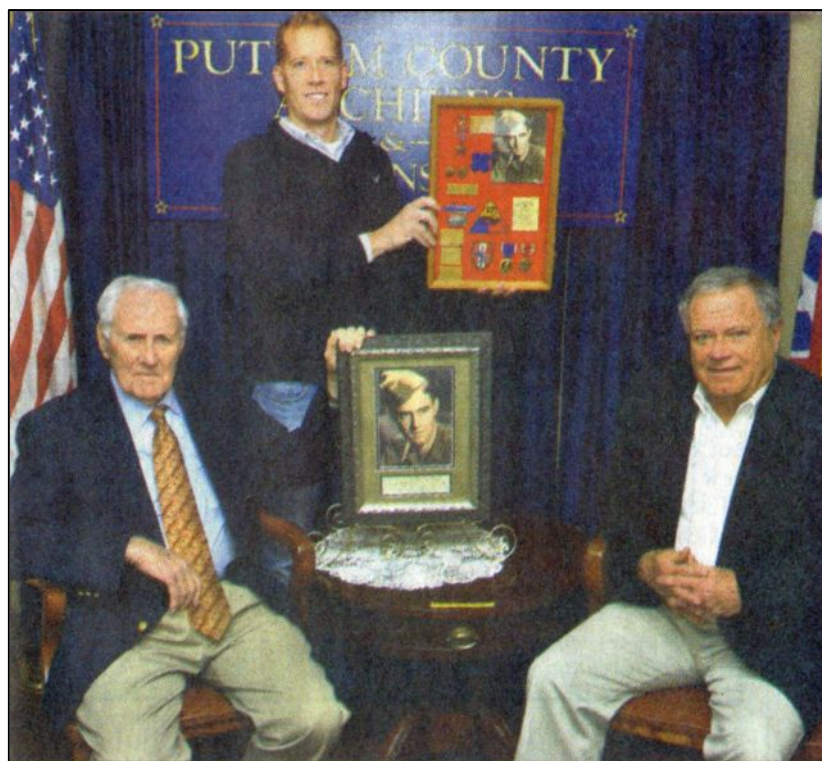
Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: Sunday, 2 February 2014, pg. A10



MEMORIAL BRICKS

Marge and Robert Cumby recently purchased a memorial brick at the Putnam County Veterans Hall. They are pictured with military photos of Robert, left, and his brother, William Harold Cumby, right. Robert says he wanted to have the memorial brick made to honor his family, help raise money for the Veterans Hall's new building and to encourage others to do the same.

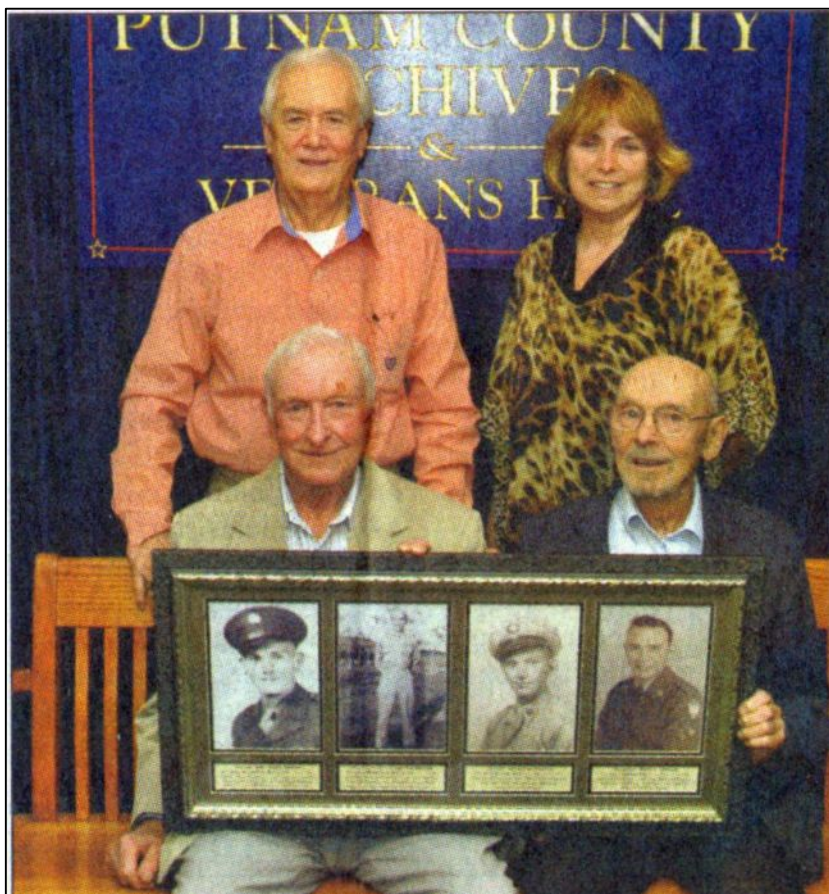
Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: Sunday, 2 February 2014, pg. A10



**U. S. ARMY FIRST CLASS ROSS ELZIE WILLIAMS,
COL. (RET.) ROGER WILLIAMS,
SMSGT TRENT WILLIAMS**

U. S. Army First Class Ross Elzie Williams, seated left, with son Col. (Ret.) Roger Williams (seated right) and grandson SMSGT Trent Williams, is the *Herald-Citizen* Veterans of the week. Ross served in the U. S. Army during World War II in the “Blue Devil” Division, serving in Italy. He was awarded the Bronze Medal for meritorious service and the Purple Heart. For more information about the Putnam County Veterans Hall, call (931) 520-0042. Photo by Ty Kernea | Herald-Citizen.

Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: 11 February 2014.



**US ARMY SGT. DALLAS FOSTER MAXWELL, US
ARMY PVT 1ST CLASS ARNOLD LEE MAXWELL
US ARMY CORP ROBERT EARL MAXWELL
US ARMY SPC4 HARRY L. MAXWELL**

The Maxwell brothers, the late U. S. Army Sgt. Dallas Foster Maxwell and U. S. Army Private First Class Arnold Lee Maxwell (first two framed from left), along with, seated, from left, U. S. Army Corporal Robert Earl Maxwell and U. S. Army Spc. 4 Harry L. Maxwell, are the *Herald-Citizen* Veterans of the week. Also pictured standing, from left, are Melvin Maxwell, Dallas’ son; and Sandi Cannon, Harry’s daughter. Dallas served during World War II in Military Police Squadron F, 146th Army Air Fore BU. He also served at Selfridge Field Air Force Base in Michigan. He died in 2003 and is buried in Maxwell Cemetery. Arnold served in the Army during World War II in the 92nd ORD HV Auto Maintenance Co. Turret Lathe Operator in Fort McPherson, GA. He also patrolled Puerto Rico. He died in 1982 and is also buried in the Maxwell Cemetery. Robert served in the Korean Conflict, stationed at Will Kaserne Army Base in Munich, Germany, as an auto and track maintenance mechanic. Harry served in the Korean Conflict as well, Supply Records Spec., 889th Engineer Aviation Maintenance Company, Beale Air Force Base in northern California. Families who have veterans’ photos framed in the Veterans Hall and would like to be the H-C Veteran of the Week can call the Veterans Hall at (931) 520-0042 to set up an appointment.

Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: 25 March 2014.



THE VAUGHN BROTHERS

The six living Vaughn brothers are inducted into the Putnam County Veterans Hall with their images and the photos of their two late brothers. Pictured, in front, from left, are Cletis, Carson and Truman Vaughn. In back Hassel Jr., Charles and Howard Vaughn. Megan Trotter

Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: 13 April 2014.

COOKEVILLE — There were eight boys in the Vaughn family, and all of them went into the military as young men. Every single one of them returned home, even though several of them saw dangerous battle. This past week the brothers who are still living — ranging in age from 79 to 93 — were inducted into the Putnam County Veterans Hall and celebrated with friends and family as their photos were hung in the hall for the whole community to remember their service.

The family, originally from Independence, Tenn., also included two sisters. And while their parents worried about the boys who were all off serving their country, it was a great relief to the family in some ways as well.

“Times were hard back then,” brother Howard said. “It was hard to feed a family. That was probably one of the reasons I joined — it was so hard to get anything at home. I’m glad I did, because it was good experience for me and it helped me grow up. ... Young men and women who don’t have a job or are stuck looking for a job, that’s the best place in the world for them. They’re taken care of, all of their bills are paid, they’re fed well and they can serve their country.”

Most of the boys did not see any action while serving. Howard came in at the tail end of the Korean War, but never found himself in dangerous situations while serving aboard the USS Manchester and traveling overseas four times.

“I guess the most interesting place we went to was Hiroshima, where the first atomic bomb was dropped (in Japan),” he said. “And those old folks over there, they still resented us at that time.”

Though most of the brothers were always safe while serving, two of them were not. Truman served in the Navy during World War II as a gunner on the USS Ulvert M. Moore. He was responsible for shooting

down a Japanese plane and saving the ship. However, it's brother Carson who has the most horrific stories to tell. He was captured by the Germans in Italy during World War II and held in a prison camp for 17 months while his family had no idea where he was or what had happened to him. He was ultimately saved by the end of the war, just moments before his captors were about to end his life.

"They had bulldozers digging this big trench out there about a quarter of a mile long, and machine guns where (the prisoners) were lined up, 2,000 of them," Howard said. "If those people on the motorcycles hadn't come in and said the war was over, they'd all been killed, pushed in there and covered up."

When Carson was set free, he weighed a mere 74 pounds. Some feared he wouldn't survive. However, he will turn 91 on May 1 of this year, and up until last year he planted a yearly garden himself.

"He'll probably still try to put out tomatoes this year," Howard chuckled.

Brother Charles served as a paratrooper, but he came into the job unintentionally.

"One morning, the platoon sergeant asked for two volunteers," Charles remembers. "Well, I was standing here, and my buddy — he was a black man from Mississippi and the best friend I ever had in the Army — I nudged him and said, 'Step out, and I will.' We stepped out, and (the platoon officer) said 'Thank you, gentleman. You're going to jump school.'"

Charles had never been in an airplane before, let alone considered jumping out of one. He was terrified, but obeyed orders.

"The first time, I just closed my eyes and jumped out in the air. The first five times I ever flew on an airplane, I didn't come back with the plane. I jumped out," he laughed.

He made 33 jumps in all, and after finishing "jump school," was sent to North Carolina where he tested vehicles that Ford and GM built for the military. However, instead of test driving, his job was to send the machinery plummeting out of an airplane to make sure it could hold up when really deployed in combat situations.

"We never did tear up any. They were well-done," Charles said. "That was one of the coolest things I ever did was to stand up in one of those big airplanes and release that hook that held the Jeeps and things and then it would go 'boom!' The big parachutes would open and we'd watch them go down to the ground. It was a great feeling."

In addition to Howard, Truman, Carson and Charles, there is also Cletis who served in the Navy and guarded German prisoners at the POW camp in Norfolk, Va., as well as Hassel Jr., who enlisted with the Tennessee National Guard and was transferred to the Michigan National Guard as a rifleman.

Loyce has passed away and is buried in Alabama, however he served in World War II as an airplane mechanic in the United States and Africa. The last brother, Lloyd, also served in World War II and was stationed at Stinson Field Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. He is buried in Detroit, Mich.

The surviving brothers were all smiles this past week after their induction into the Veteran's Hall as they autographed the back of their photos and shared stories of their past with everyone gathered to honor them and thank them for their service.

"It's a privilege and an honor to have been able to serve the country we love," Charles said.

Herald-Citizen, Cookeville,, TN: Tuesday, 13 April 2014



**SGT RALPH DOUGLAS GENTRY
TECH 4 CARL V. GENTRY**

Sgt. Ralph Douglas Gentry and Carl V. Gentry, Tech 4, are *Herald-Citizen's* Veterans of the Week. Carl served in the Army Air Corps during World War II from Nov. 10, 1939, through Sept. 30, 1945. He served in the European, African and Middle Eastern Theatres of Operations, and also traveled to Normandy and northern France. He earned two Bronze Stars. Ralph served in the Army during World War II from February 1943 to February 1946 in the 97th Infantry Division, 322 Combat Engineers Battalion. He served in the European and Pacific Theater of Operation. Honoring their memory is their niece, Anna Rose Gentry Vaughn, her husband Charlie Vaughn, and their daughter Regina Malone.

Families who have framed veterans' photos in the Veterans Hall and would like to be the H-C Veteran of the Week can call the Veterans Hall at (931) 520-0042 to set up an appointment. Ty Kernea | *Herald-Citizen*

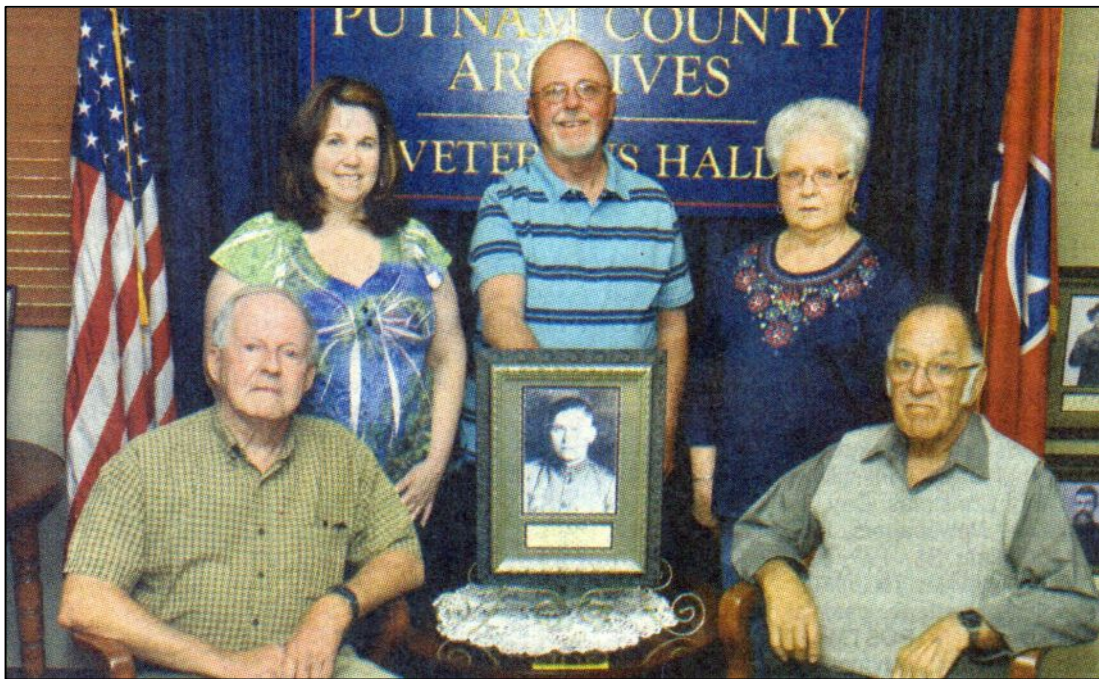
Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: 15 April 2014



US ARMY PFC LAWRENCE EDWARD MORPHEW

U.S. Army PFC Lawrence Edward Morpew, seated right, with son Dan, seated left, and great-granddaughters Paige Reaves and Autumn Reaves, is the *Herald-Citizen* Veteran of the Week. Lawrence served during World War II in the 44th Medical Evacuation Unit in Holland, Germany, Belgium, France and England. For more information about the Veterans Hall or to set up a Veteran of the Week photo, call 520-0042. Ty Kernea

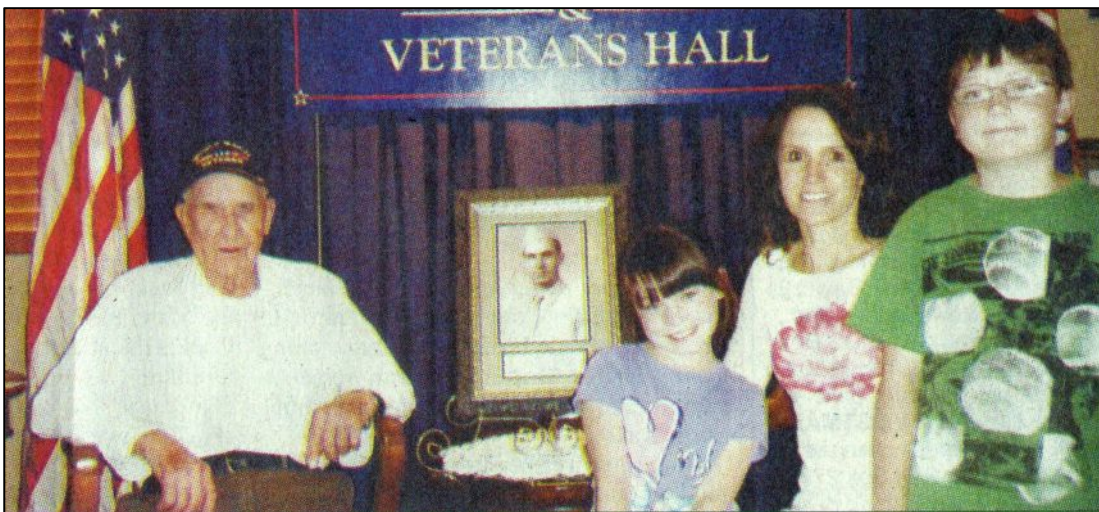
Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: 22 April 2014



ARMY PRIVATE WILLIE JACKSON

The late Army QMC Private Willie Jackson, represented by nephews, seated, from left, Carles Morgan and James M. Jackson; and great-niece Mitzi Freeman, great-nephew David Morgan and niece Sue Holloway, is the *Herald-Citizen* Veteran of the Week. Willie served during World War I from September of 1917 to January of 1919 and was stationed in Georgia. He enlisted at Fort Oglethorpe, GA, Bkry Co 1 & 350 in the Quartermaster Corps.

Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: 17 June 2014



ARMY T5 SPECIALIST ERNEST SLAGLE

Army T5 specialist Ernest Slagle, left, pictured with grandchildren Marianne Curry, Katie Rohr and Jordan Rohr, is the *Herald-Citizen* Veteran of the Week. Slagle served in the Army during World War II in the 1st Army 610 Combat Engineers, Cook, Normandy, Battle of the Bulge – St. Vith, Belgium and Berlin. He trained at Camp Young, CA, and was deployed to England six months later and landed in Normandy. Families who have veterans' photos framed in the Veterans Hall and would like to be the H-C Veteran of the Week can call the Veterans Hall at (931) 520-0042 to set up an appointment.

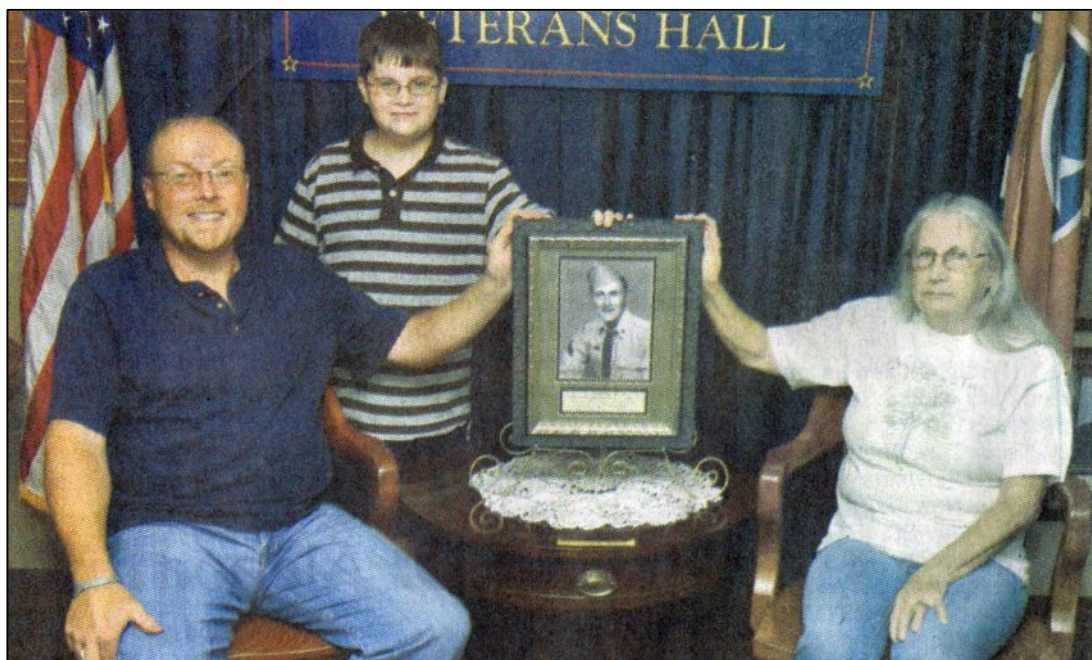
Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: 24 June 2014



US NAVY CHIEF PETTY OFFICER LOUIS HUNT LAFEVER

U. S. Navy Chief Petty Officer Louis Hunt LaFever, represented by wife Nola Jones LaFever, is the *Herald-Citizen* Veteran of the Week. Louis served during World War II at naval air stations in California, Hawaii, Atsugi-Japan, Morocco and northwest Africa. He died February 10, 2004, and is buried in Arlington Cemetery.

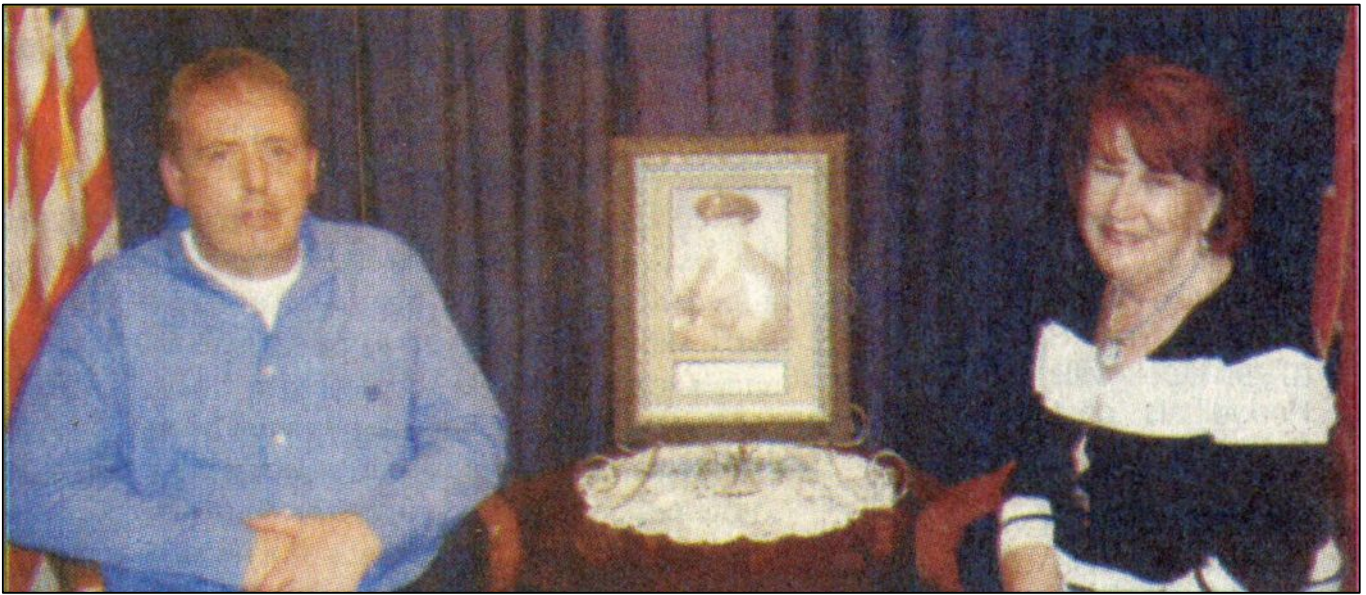
Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: 1 July 2014



US ARMY PRIVATE JUNIOR LEE SCARLETT

The late U. S. Army Private Junior Lee Scarlett, represented by son Randy Scarlett, seated left, widow Carolyn Scarlett and grandson Adam Scarlett is the *Herald-Citizen* Veteran of the Week. Junior served during the Korean War from February of 1952 to February of 1954 as a radio operator. He trained at Fort Knox, KY, and traveled with VB Mort, Co 18, infantry pgt. He died in 2013 and is buried in Odd Fellows Cemetery.

Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: 8 July 2014

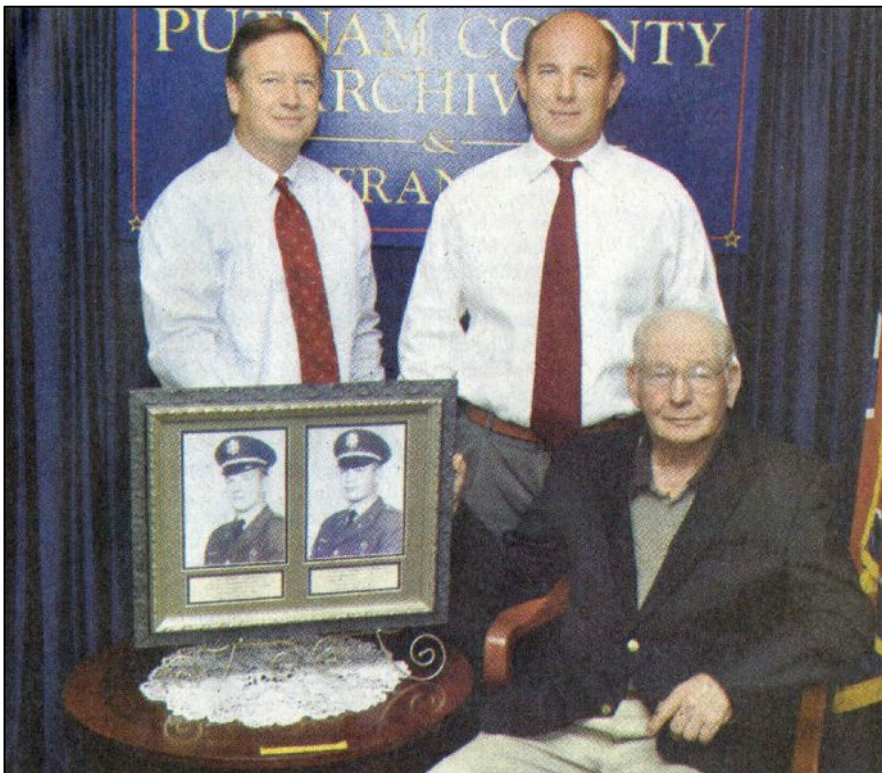


ARMY TECHNICIAN 5th GRADE GROVER WILLIAM KING

The late Army Technician 5th Grade Grover William Kin, represented by grandson Douglas King, left, and daughter Rosemary O'Daniel, is the *Herald-Citizen* Veteran of the Week. He served during World War II from 1942 to 1945 in Europe in the Artillery Battalion in Belgium and Germany. He died in 1986.

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Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: 22 July 2014



US ARMY 1ST LT WILLIAM FRED ROBERTSON SR

US ARMY CAPTAIN ROBERT LETT ROBERSON

Twin brothers U. S. Army 1st Lt. William Fred Roberson Sr. (seated) and the late U. S. Army Captain Robert Lee Roberson (left in framed photo), are the *Herald-Citizen* Veterans of the Week. William Sr. is pictured with his sons, William Fred Roberson Jr., standing left, and Wes Carter Roberson. William Sr. served in the Army during the Vietnam War, stationed at Chu Li, South Vietnam in the Medical Service Corps. Robert served also in the Army during the Vietnam War, stationed at Long Binh, South Vietnam, in the Medical Service Corps. For more information about the Putnam County Veterans Hall, call (931) 520-0042.

Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: 2 September 2014